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Westminster, January 27.

HIS Majesty came this Day to the House of Peers, and being in His Royal Robes, seated on the Throne with the usual Solemnity, Sir Charles Dalton Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers; the Commons being come thither accordingly, His Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is a great Satisfaction to me, that at the meeting the first Parliament summoned and convened by my Authority, I am able to give you Hopes of seeing the publick Peace and Tranquility very soon restored. I very much wished, that the first Period of my Reign might have been distinguished, by putting an immediate End to the Troubles and Disorders of Europe; by a Reduction of some Part of my Forces; a Diminution of Taxes, and all the happy Consequences of an honourable and established Peace: To which my Endeavours have in no Manner been wanting, as far as was consistent with maintaining the Possessions, Rights and Privileges of my Kingdom, and, I promise myself, not without great Probability of Success.

I am very sensible of the disagreeable and uneasy Situation in which our Affairs have been for some Time, and have been extremely concerned to see many of the Inconveniencies of a War attending us, without any Opportunity of resenting the Injuries we sustained, or gaining any of those Advantages in Return, which the vigorous Prosecution of so just a Cause, and the Success of our Arms might probably have secured to us.

But you are sufficiently apprized, that Preliminary Articles for a General Pacification were some time ago signed and accepted by the contracting Parties on both Sides, and although the Ratifications of them had been exchanged by me and my Allies, with his Imperial Majesty, the good Effects expected from them were retarded by the Refusal, on the Part of Spain, to execute some of the most material Points contained in them, and by Endeavours to alter and explain some Articles, in such a manner as immediately affected the Possessions and the just Rights of my Kingdom. I therefore, jointly with my Allies, declined exchanging the Ratifications of the Preliminaries with the Court of Spain, and rejected all such Propositions as were detrimental and injurious to my Honour and the Interest of my People.

By these Means the Negotiations were unavoidably carried into a tedious Length, which I endured with the greater Patience, from an earnest Desire to procure to my Sub-

jects a safe and honourable Peace, and to see the Tranquility of Europe preserved and settled upon a solid and lasting Foundation: During which Time I received from the most Christian King, and the States General, the greatest Proofs of their Sincerity, and a Renewal of the strongest Assurances imaginable, that they would effectually make good all their Engagements, in Support of the Common Cause, and of our mutual Interests; and I am very glad, that I can acquaint you, that our joint Endeavours have had so good an Effect, that by the last Advices from Abroad, I have great Reason to hope, that the Difficulties which have hitherto retarded the Execution of the Preliminaries, and the opening of the Congress, will soon be entirely removed.

However, it will in the mean time be absolutely necessary to continue, as our Allies have already resolved to do, the Preparations which have hitherto been our Security, and prevented an open Rupture in Europe, that we may not at once lose all the Advantages which our former Expences and Vigour have so nearly procured, by not being in a Condition, if that Necessity should unexpectedly be brought upon us, to vindicate our Honour and assert our Rights: And you may depend upon it, that my first Care shall be, to reduce from Time to Time the Expence of the Publick as often, and as soon as the Interest and Safety of my People will permit it.

The Preliminary Articles, and such other Treaties and Conventions, as have not yet been communicated to Parliament, and which may without manifest Prejudice be exposed to publick View, shall be laid before you.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have given Orders to the proper Officers to prepare and lay before you Estimates of the Expences for the Service of the Current Year, and you may be assured, that the Supplies which I find myself obliged to demand of you, shall as certainly, as they do exceed my Wishes and Inclinations, be employed solely for the Interest and Security of the Nation. And I make no doubt, but that if any Method can be found out, for raising the necessary Supplies, less grievous to my People than another, that will have the Preference in all your Deliberations.

I think myself obliged to recommend to you a Consideration of the greatest Importance, and I should look upon it as a great Happiness, if, at the Beginning of my Reign, I could see the Foundation laid of so great and necessary a Work, as the Increase and Encouragement of our Seamen in general, that they may be invited rather than compelled by Force and Violence, to enter into the Service of their Country, as often as Occasion shall require it. A Consideration worthy of the Representatives of a People great and flourishing in Trade and Navigation.

This

[Price Two-Pence.]

This leads me to mention to you the Case of Greenwich-Hospital, that Care may be taken by some Addition to that Fund, to render comfortable and effectual that charitable Provision for the Support and Maintenance of our Seamen, worn out and become decrepit by Age and Infirmities, in the Service of their Country.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

As I have great Hopes, that a general Pacification will be now obtained, by a speedy Execution of the Preliminaries, I am satisfied that nothing will more effectually contribute to, and secure this desirable End, than such an Unanimity, Zeal and Dispatch of the publick Business in this Parliament, as may convince the World, that none among you are capable, out of any Views or Considerations whatsoever to wish the Distress of their Country, or to give an Occasion from the Prospect of Difficulties that may arise, and be fomented were at Home, to interrupt or disappoint our present promising Expectations: This it is in your Power to defeat, and this I depend upon from your known Zeal and Affection to my Person and Government, and your hearty Concern for the Interest and Welfare of my People.

South Sea House, Jan. 27, 1727.

Yesterday was held a General Court of the South Sea Company, when the Sub-Governour opened the same in Manner following, viz.

Gentlemen,

YOU are now in this General Court to consider of and resolve what Dividend shall be made on your Capital Stock for the half Year ending at Christmas last.

You all know that the Interest on the several Funds payable to this Company at the Exchequer, became reduced to Four per Cent. by Act of Parliament from Midsummer last, so that you cannot but have expected a proportional Abatement of One per Cent. per Annum on your future Dividends.

You also know, that under the Hopes of a good Issue to your Concerns in Trade, and other Dependancies, you have usually divided One per Cent. per Annum more than you have received from the Exchequer; but 'tis with Concern we are obliged to tell you, those Expectations which encouraged you to do so, have been in some Respects greatly, in others wholly frustrated.

Great Part of what was expected to come into Cash from your Indulgencies to the Loan Creditors of the Year 1720, has hitherto failed, and you are left to prosecute the obstinate for their Debts.

A considerable Part of your Estate seized in the Spanish West Indies on the Rupture with Spain Anno 1719, is yet unreturned, although by the Treaty of Peace Anno 1721, it was particularly stipulated to be forthwith delivered up again.

About the Time the Siege of Gibraltar was opened the last Year, Orders were privately sent from Madrid to New Spain to seize the Effects of this Company in all Parts, which by our latest Advices was accordingly put in Execution by Surprize in the Months of May, June, and July last, and nothing being saved that we yet know of, the whole of your Debts, Ships and Effects in those Parts are now under Seizure.

It is some Comfort under these Afflictions that we have the Assurance of His Majesty's Protection and powerful Interposition, and we may with Authority say, that by the last Accounts from Madrid, which give Reason to expect an Accommodation to all publick Disturbances, those Effects are to be suddenly restored, and the Assiento re-established; but this must be the Work of Time, and cannot be carried into immediate Dependence.

These Losses and Disappointments are no longer Supportable, and therefore, as our Reputation and Prudence will very justly be called in Question should we advise a greater Dividend than we know you are able in your present Circumstance to pay; we propose it as our Opinion, that the Dividend on the Capital Stock of this Company, for the half Year ending at Christmas last, be Two per Cent. in Money, and that the Warrants bear Date the 29th Instant, and be payable the 15th of February next; which however we submit to your Determination.

Upon which, after some Debate, the Question was put for agreeing with the Court of Directors in their Opinion, that the Half-Year's Dividend for Christmas last, be Two per Cent. which being carried by the Hands, a Ballot was demanded for determining the said Question, which Ballot is to be taken on this Day and Monday next, between the Hours of Nine in the Morning and Five in the Afternoon of each Day.

The Court of Directors do therefore give this Notice for the Information of the Proprietors.

The Commissioners for Hackney Coachs hereby give Notice, That the Moieties of several Fines set on Coachmen, which could not be recovered till long after the respective Convictions, are now recovered and remaining in the Hands of their Officer, ready to be paid to the Persons that prosecuted the Complaints, if they will call for the same any Monday or Thursday, between Ten and Two, at the Office in Surrey-Street.

Advertisements.

This Day is published,

* * I. A Defence of the Dissertation on the Validity of the English Ordinations, against the several Answers made to it, with proper Vouchers for the Facts advanced in that Work. By the Reverend Father P. F. le Courayer. In 2 Vols. 8vo.

II. F. Courayer's Dissertation, the 2d Edition, 8vo. Printed for William and John Innys, at the West-End of St. Paul's.

ALL Persons having any Goods in the Hands of Stephen Jarvis, in Water-lane in Fleet-street, that have laid 18 Months, are desired to fetch them away before the 25th Day of March 1728, or they will be sold.

WHEREAS a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded against Nicholas Little, of the Parish of St. Botolph without Bishopsgate, London, Salesman, and he being declared a Bankrupt; is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners on the 6th, 9th and 26th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London; at the second of which Sittings the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and chuse Assignees. And all Persons indebted to the said Bankrupt, or that have any Goods or Effects of his in their Hands, are to give Notice thereof to Mr. Loak Jakeman, Attorney, in Bishopsgate-street, London.

WHEREAS a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded against Thomas Homan, of Hatton-Garden, in the County of Middlesex, Carpenter, and he being declared a Bankrupt; is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners on the 6th, 12th and 26th of February next, at Three a-Clock in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London; at the first of which Sittings the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and chuse Assignees. And all Persons indebted to the said Bankrupt, or that have any Goods or Effects of his in their Hands, are desired to give Notice to Mr. William Wreathock, Attorney, in Hatton-Garden aforesaid.

WHEREAS a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded against Richard Yardley, now or late of Abchurch-lane, London, Merchant, and he being declared a Bankrupt; is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners on the 31st Instant, and on the 7th and 24th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London; at the second of which Sittings the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and chuse Assignees. And all Persons indebted to the said Bankrupt, or that have any Effects of his in their Hands, are desired to give Notice thereof to Mr. Denham Hammond, Attorney, in Dove-Court, in Little Lombard-street, London.

WHEREAS a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded against Richard Howard, late of the Parish of St. Margaret Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, Distiller, and he being declared a Bankrupt; is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners on the 2d, 9th and 26th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London; at the first of which Sittings the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and chuse Assignees. And all Persons indebted to the said Bankrupt, or that have any Goods or Effects of his in their Hands, are desired to give Notice thereof to Mr. Randolph Greenway, Jun. Attorney, in Thavie's Inn, London.

Whereas

WHereas a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded against Michael Moses, of London, Merchant and Stock-jobber, and he being declared a Bankrupt; is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners on the 31st Instant, and on the 7th and 26th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London; at the second of which Sittings the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and chuse Assignees.

WHereas a Commission of Bankrupt hath been awarded against Nathaniel Barton, late of Macclesfield, in the County of Chester, Chapman, and he being declared a Bankrupt; is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners on the 5th, 6th and 26th of February next, at Ten in the Forenoon, at the House of Samuel Heathcot, known by the Name of the Old Coffee-house in Manchester, in the County of Lancaster; at the Second of which Sittings the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and chuse Assignees.

WHereas a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded against Nathaniel Thomas, of Tetbury, in the County of Gloucester, Innholder and Chapman, and he being declared a Bankrupt; is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners on the 6th, 13th and 26th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London; at the second of which Sittings the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and chuse Assignees. And all Persons indebted to the said Bankrupt, or that have any Goods or Effects of his in their Hands, are to give Notice thereof to Mr. Graves, Attorney, in Woodstreet, London.

WHereas a Commission of Bankrupt hath been awarded against William Hopkins, of Glastenbury, in the County of Somerset, Grocer, and he being declared a Bankrupt; is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners on the 15th, 16th and 26th of February next, at Ten in the Forenoon, at the House of Edward Raw, being the George Inn in Ilminster, in the said County; at the first of which Sittings the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and chuse Assignees.

WHereas Joseph Hardin, of Aldersgate street, London, Victualler, hath surrendered himself (pursuant to Notice) and been twice examined; This is to give Notice, that he will attend the Commissioners on the 5th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London, to finish his Examination; when and where the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and assent to or dissent from the Allowance of his Certificate.

WHereas John Richbell, of Kingston upon Thames, in the County of Surrey, Maltster, hath surrendered himself (pursuant to Notice) and been twice examined; This is to give Notice, that he will attend the Commissioners on the 12th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London, to finish his Examination; when and where the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and assent to or dissent from the Allowance of his Certificate.

WHereas Thomas Walker, of the Town of Berwick upon Tweed, Merchant, hath surrendered himself (pursuant to Notice) and been twice examined; This is to give Notice that he will attend the Commissioners on the 9th of February next, at Ten in the Forenoon, at the Town-Hall in Berwick aforesaid, to finish his Examination; when and where the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, chuse Assignees, or accept of the Assignees already appointed, and assent to or dissent from the Allowance of the Bankrupt's Certificate.

THE Commissioners in the renewed Commission of Bankrupt awarded against John Baptista Morasso, late of Poor Jury-lane, London, Merchant, intend to meet on the 16th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London, to make a 2d Dividend of the said Bankrupt's Estate, and to chuse an Assignee or Assignees of the said Bankrupt's Estate, in the Room of two of the former Assignees since deceased; when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts, and paid their Contribution-Money, are to come prepared to do the same for the Purposes aforesaid. And all Persons that have any Goods or Effects of the said Bankrupt's in their Hands, are forthwith to pay and deliver the same to Mr. Warner, Attorney, in Cornhill, London, or they will be sued.

THE Commissioners in a renewed Commission of Bankrupt awarded against Samuel Paris, of Cannon-Street, London, Merchant, intend to meet on the 16th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London, in order to make a Dividend of the said Bankrupt's Estate, when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts, and paid their Contribution-Money, are to come prepared to do the same, or they will be excluded the Benefit of the said Dividend.

THE Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded against George Harrison, of Great Yarmouth, in the County of Norfolk, Beer-Brewer, intend to meet on the 14th of February next, at Three in the Afternoon, at the House of Priscilla Loveday, Widow, in Great Yar-

mouth aforesaid, known by the Sign of the Fountain, to make a Dividend of the said Bankrupt's Estate; when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts and paid their Contribution-Money, are to come prepared to do the same, or they will be excluded the Benefit of the said Dividend.

THE Commissioners in a renewed Commission of Bankrupt lately awarded against Samuel Barkar, of the City of Bristol, Distiller, intend to meet on the 27th of February next, at Ten in the Forenoon, at the King's-Head Tavern in Small-Street, Bristol, in order to make a Dividend of the said Bankrupt's Estate; when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts, and paid their Contribution-Money, are to come prepared to do the same, or they will be excluded the Benefit of the said Dividend.

WHereas the acting Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded against Andrew Rooker, of the Parish of St. James, within the Liberty of Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, Innkeeper and Victualler, have certified to the Right Honourable Peter Lord King, Baron of Ockham, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, that the said Andrew Rooker hath in all Things conformed himself according to the Directions of the several Acts of Parliament made concerning Bankrupts; This is to give Notice, that his Certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the said Acts direct, unless Cause be shewn to the contrary on or before the 16th of February next.

WHereas the acting Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded against David Fernandes, late of Dublin, but now of London, Merchant, have certified to the Right Honourable Peter Lord King, Baron of Ockham, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, that the said David Fernandes hath in all Things conformed himself according to the Directions of the several Acts of Parliament made concerning Bankrupts; This is to give Notice, that his Certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the said Acts direct, unless Cause be shewn to the contrary on or before the 16th of February next.

WHereas the acting Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded against Ambrose Inglefield, of the Parish of Christ-Church, London, Butcher, have certified to the Right Honourable Peter Lord King, Baron of Ockham, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, that the said Ambrose Inglefield hath in all Things conformed himself according to the Directions of the several Acts of Parliament made concerning Bankrupts; This is to give Notice, that his Certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the said Acts direct, unless Cause be shewn to the contrary on or before the 16th of February next.

WHereas the acting Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded against Thomas Randall, of Cerne, in the County of Dorset, Merchant, have certified to the Right Honourable Peter Lord King, Baron of Ockham, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, that the said Thomas Randall hath in all Things conformed himself according to the Directions of the several Acts of Parliament made concerning Bankrupts; This is to give Notice, that his Certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the said Acts direct, unless Cause be shewn to the contrary on or before the 16th of February next.

WHereas the acting Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded against Edward Davenport, of Cow Cross, in the County of Middlesex, Butcher and Sausman, have certified to the Right Honourable Peter Lord King, Baron of Ockham, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, that the said Edward Davenport hath in all Things conformed himself according to the Directions of the several Acts of Parliament made concerning Bankrupts; This is to give Notice, that his Certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the said Acts direct, unless Cause be shewn to the contrary on or before the 16th of February next.

WHereas the acting Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded against John Barber, of Pancras-lane, Stocking-Legger, have certified to the Right Honourable Peter Lord King, Baron of Ockham, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, that the said John Barber hath in all Things conformed himself according to the Directions of the several Acts of Parliament made concerning Bankrupts; This is to give Notice, that his Certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the said Acts direct, unless Cause be shewn to the contrary on or before the 16th of February next.

WHereas the acting Commissioners in a Commission of Bankrupt awarded against David Swandston, late of the Parish of St. Paul Covent-Garden, in the County of Middlesex, Distiller, have certified to the Right Honourable Peter Lord King, Baron of Ockham, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, that the said David Swandston hath in all Things conformed himself according to the Directions of the several Acts of Parliament made concerning Bankrupts; This is to give Notice, that his Certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the said Acts direct, unless Cause be shewn to the contrary on or before the 16th of February next.

